

The Asian Monsoon is the planet's greatest seasonal shift in rainfall. Each monthly globe shows data averaged over a 26-year period, from 1979 to 2005. During winter in the Northern Hemisphere (January–March), the Sun is south of the Equator along with heavy rain, even reaching into northern Australia, while India and Indochina are dry. When the seasons reverse, South Asia is one of the wettest places on Earth and it is dry south of the Equator. (Data from the Global Precipitation Climatology Project.)